

Attorney Docket No. 24532B

REMARKS**Preliminary Amendment**

Applicants note that in the originally filed application, claim number 38 was inadvertently duplicated. By this amendment, the duplicate claim 38, which depends from claim 34, has been amended as new claim 44. Applicants request that the amendment be entered as no new matter has been added, Applicants are simply correcting a typographical error.

Response to Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has imposed a restriction requirement requiring Applicants to elect one invention. As stated above, Applicants have amended duplicate claim 38 as new claim 44. New claim 44 depends from claim 34 (Group I). Applicants hereby provisionally elect claims 1-12 and 34-44 (Group I) with traverse.

While Applicants agree with the Examiner that the subject matter of Groups I-III are independent and patentably distinct, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-44 is sufficiently related and that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden.

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If any questions should arise with respect to the above remarks, or if it would in any way expedite the prosecution of the case, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' agent at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Maria C. Gasaway

Reg. No. 51,721

Owens Corning

Patent Department, Bldg. 54

2790 Columbus Road

Granville, OH 43023

(740) 321-7213

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